ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An ink jet recording apparatus wherein a sub-tank mounted on a carriage is replenished with ink from an ink cartridge as a main tank by the action of pressurized air from an air pressurizing pump. The ink jet recording apparatus is provided with means for opening an air flow passage from the air pressurizing pump to the ink cartridge into the atmosphere as a cover member of a cartridge holder is opened when the ink cartridge is attached or detached. The recording apparatus has an on-off valve unit for maintaining pressure on the air flow passage in a predetermined range and drive means capable of forcibly opening the on-off valve unit for releasing a pressurization state, for example, when the operation power of the recording apparatus stops. The recording apparatus further includes a diaphragm displaced upon reception of air pressure on the air flow passage and output generation means for generating a control signal based on the displacement amount of the diaphragm, and driving the air pressurizing pump is controlled by the control signal generated by the output generation means.